MARCH 7, 1755. THE No. 217.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

With the freſheſt ADVICES, FOREIGN *and* DOMESTIC.

From the New-York MERCURY.

Iraſci noſtro non debes, Cerdo, *libello.*
Ars tua, non vita, eſt Carmine læſa meo.
——————*Cur ludere nobis*
Non liceat, licuit ſi jugulare tibi?

Martial.

HAT an Extinction of the *Liberty of the Preſs*, would be productive of innumerable Miſchiefs in Society, is as clearly evident, as are the inexpreſſible Benefits of the Art of Printing in general. If we take an ample Survey of paſt Ages, the tardy Progreſs of Knowledge, while the Uſe of this ineſtimable Art was unknown, and the vaſt Improvement of Science, ſince its Diſcovery, will furniſh us with experimental Evidence of its abundant Utility. Of all the animal Creation, Man is, indeed, the moſt dependent by Nature, and ſtands in continual Need of the Aid of his Fellow Mortals, to maintain a comfortable Exiſtence. This ſeeming conſtitutional Defect, is, however, fully repaired by his communicative Faculties and Diſpoſition. For thus driven by Want, and attracted by Inclination, to mutual Intercourſe, each Individual gains a political Strength; and every Member of Community is exerted in the Promotion of his Happineſs. Nor are the Advantages ariſing from this Source, confined to the common Affairs of Life: They aſcend much higher, and facilitate our mental Improvement. Man is ſo conſtructed, as to find his moſt ſubſtantial Bliſs in the Exerciſe of his rational Powers: Whence it is clear as Demonſtration itſelf, that thoſe Means which tend to his Improvement in Knowledge, ſhould be dear to him as his Exiſtence. But altho' we are all born with Capacities to Knowledge, yet, in this Particular, do we alſo want the Aſſiſtance of others. The Mind of a new-born Infant, is a perfect Blank capable of receiving Impreſſions. In our tender Age, a Communication with our neareſt Relations, tho' indeed contracted, affords a little Stock for the Exerciſe of our juvenile Abilities. As we increaſe in Years, our Acquaintance with Mankind is gradually enlarged; and by ſupplying us daily with new Matter of Obſervation, enriches the Magazine of our Minds, with a copious Harveſt of Knowledge. Hence therefore we may eaſily conceive, that a ſhort Life of Commerce, will more improve our intellectual Faculties, than a Thouſand Years of monaſtic Solitude. From theſe ſhort Hints it ſufficiently appears, that an Acquaintance with the Sentiments of each other, in our Purſuit of Knowledge, is abſolutely requiſite. Nor is it leſs evident, that thoſe Means which tend to ſupport it in the fulleſt Perfection, ſhould be the Objects of our utmoſt Care and Attention.

I have already obſerved the ſlow Advances of our Forefathers, in the extenſive Field of Science, before the Invention of the Preſs; and the vaſt Attainments of later Ages ſince its Diſcovery. If we ſearch for the true Reaſon of this Diſparity, we ſhall find it to conſiſt, not in a Difference of Abilities, but in the vaſt Advantages the Moderns have received from the Art of Printing, of which the Ancients were entirely ignorant.

To enumerate the particular Inſtances, in which this Art is peculiarly ſerviceable, would protract this Paper beyond its proper Limits. Let it be ſufficient to obſerve, that the Preſs is the moſt direct and eaſy Channel, of communicating our Sentiments to Mankind in general; and by eſtabliſhing a kind of univerſal Correſpondence, furniſhes each Individual with the Sentiments, not only of the wiſeſt Perſons of the Community, but even of the Sages of the whole World. It gives him an Acquaintance with the Opinions of all Ages; by immortalizing in their Writings, thoſe great Geniuſes, whoſe Works are calculated for more extenſive Utility, than that of one Generation of People.

It would be foreign to my Deſign, to diſplay the ſingular Improvements which the whole Circle of the Sciences has received, from the Labors of the Preſs. I ſhall therefore confine myſelf to thoſe Branches of Literature, that are moſt intimately connected with the Affairs of Society.

Tho' Man in a State of Nature, is the Subject of thoſe Rights and Duties only which ariſe from the Law of his Nature; yet his Entrance into Society places him in two Relations, as a rational Creature, and a Member of ſome Community. Whence it is, that the moſt intereſting Objects of Knowledge to Men in Society, are Religion, either natural or revealed, and Government. To the Study of which the downright Prieſt, and deſpotic Ruler, generally claim an excluſive Right.

It is, however, the proper Buſineſs of an intelligent Being, to inveſtigate thoſe Relations of his Exiſtence, which either beſtow on him ſome Priviliges or ſubject him to certain Duties. Highly commendable is it therefore in every Member of Community, to apply as cloſely as his Circumſtances will permit, to the Study of Religion and Politics: Theſe are Subjects which demand his utmoſt Attention; Subjects in which, both his preſent and future Well-being, are moſt importantly concerned. Whence, it may juſtly be inferred, that thoſe who make Uſe of Means to obſtruct the Liberty of the Preſs, upon Subjects ſo intereſting to Mankind, act in a direct Oppoſition to the public Weal, and deſerve to be conſidered as *Hoſtes Patriæ*, deſigning Enemies to the Proſperity of their Country.

From what I have obſerved, it is exceeding plain, that as a *Free Preſs* affords Men an Opportunity of promulging their Sentiments upon every Matter worthy of a rational Enquiry; ſo of Conſequence, it muſt unavoidably tend to improve the General Syſtem of Knowledge. But if an Acquaintance with any Part of human Literature can be promotive of Man's Felicity, thoſe particular Branches of Science, which are moſt immediately productive of that important End, deſerve the readieſt Admiſſion to public Enquiry. And for theſe Reaſons no Man ought to be denied the Liberty of the Preſs, to communicate his Sentiments to his Fellow-Creatures, on Matters ſo intereſting as *Religion and Politics*.

The Subject of this Paper may be ſupported with great Advantage, by conſulting the ſacred Oracles, and the happy Conſtitution under which we live. By the firſt of theſe we are taught, with Regard to Religion, to *try all Things and hold faſt that which is good*; and therefore, as a *Free Preſs* will afford every Man an Opportunity of ſubmitting his religious Notions to a general Scrutiny, we ſhall be enabled, in the abundant Variety to *try all Things*; and by giving a judicious Preference to the moſt eligible Opinion, *hold faſt that which is good*. Neither is ſuch Freedom of Publication and Enquiry, in the leaſt reſtrained, as far as I can diſcover, by the common Law, or any Acts of Parliament, or Aſſembly, hitherto made.

That every *Britiſh* Subject has a conſtitutional Right of enquiring freely, and conſequently of communicating to the Public, his Sentiments on Matters of Governments and Politics, will appear upon conſidering the proper Import of a few undeniable Truths.

It is the grand Privilege of every Member of the *Britiſh* Community, to participate in the Inſtitution of thoſe Laws, that infer an Obligation upon him; and hence the Maxim, that, *Ignorantia Legis, non excuſat*; a Man's Ignorance of the Law, does not excuſe him in the Breach of it. But if no Law can be binding upon the Subject, without his Conſent, he has ſurely a Right to divulge his Sentiments, either relating to the Conduct of the Perſons intruſted with the Execution of the Laws, or of a Villain in Office, who ſins in Defiance of Laws; or of thoſe who, intruſted with certain Powers for the public Good, convert them to private and ſiniſter Uſes; ſuch Perſons being all Creatures of that Conſtitution or Body of Laws, to the making of which his Aſſent was abſolutely neceſſary. If therefore the Man who, watchful of the Welfare of his Country, diſcovers the leaſt Abuſe of Powers in any of the Miniſters of Juſtice, what hinders, that he ſhall not, in the moſt public Manner, warn his Fellow-Subjects of ſuch Abuſe, and drag the ſecret Tranſgreſſor into open Day-light? Or, as a Piece of Wickedneſs privately committed, is not the leſs heinous for eſcaping the general Obſervation, what Reaſon is there, that he who perpetrates it, ſhall not be publickly detected, and receive as ſevere a Cenſure, as the Man who ſins in the Eyes of the Multitude?

The Romans, tho' a free People, *would not indeed permit their Lives and Fame, to be ſubject to the Injury and Scandal of Poets*; and therefore made a Law which impoſed a Penalty, no leſs rigorous than the Death of the Offender. But at the ſame Time that the *Licentia Poetica* was thus reſtrained, every free Man, of that once auguſt Commonwealth, had a Right to harangue the People, and charge the moſt dignified Offender with his Crimes, and that in a public Manner.

It is true, that by a Variety of adjudged Caſes, in our Law-Books, the Publication of any Writing which charges a Perſon in Office, with the Commiſſion of a Crime, or expoſes him to popular Odium and Reflection, is not the leſs libellous for being true. Which Piece of Law is founded upon this Reaſon, that tho' a Libel be true, yet it may tend to ſtir up Sedition, or cauſe a Breach of the Peace; and therefore the Law relating to Libels, may ſometimes be wholeſome. But as every general Rule admits of ſome Exceptions, ſo in particular Caſes, a State may be ruined by the Perſons to whom the Management of it is committed, for Want of timely Notice to thoſe whoſe Intereſt, were they apprized of the Danger, would urge them to the utmoſt Exertion of their Abilities in its Support. And if a People can be preſumed to have a Right in any Inſtance to oppoſe the undue Meaſures of an arbitrary Ruler, when they ſtrike at the very Vitals of the Conſtitution, they are certainly juſtifiable, in oppoſing them not only with the Pen, but even with the Sword. And then, what becomes of the Reaſon upon which the above Law, relating to Libels, is founded?

However, in all Matters of leſſer Importance, than the Inſtance I have mentioned, the Law has preſcribed a Means, by which every flagitious Dignitary, may be expoſed in Print, without Danger either to the Author, or of ſtirring up Seditions or Breaches of the Peace. For, *a Writing that inveighs againſt a particular Order of Men, and does not deſcend to Individuals of that Order*, IS NO LIBEL.

Let not therefore thoſe (if any ſuch there be amongſt us) who make a Trade of their Offices, and convert the Powers with which they are inveſted, either to private Purpoſes, or public Detriment, or aim at pleaſing the Party to which their Intereſt attaches them, by blackening the Characters of their Fellow-Subjects, who differ from them in Sentiment; expect to eſcape my warmeſt Rebukes. For tho' the Law perhaps will not allow me particularly to point out the Offender, yet it has left me ſufficient Room to expoſe him, as a Mark of general Indignation and Reſentment. M.

From

From READ's WEEKLY JOURNAL, *November* 9, 1754.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

IN a late Article from Paris, inſerted in moſt of the public Papers, the Writer ſays, "It is hoped that the Miſtakes of Geographers, will "create no Miſunderſtanding between the two Nations."

You ſee by this, that the unprejudiced, among the French themſelves, are ſenſible that the Cauſe of the preſent Diſputes comes from them; and that they lay the Blame upon their Geographers, who, in Reality, are almoſt the ſole Authority, which the intereſted Party among them alledge, in Defence of their unjuſt Proceedings in America.

The King of France has always Ten or a Dozen Geographers, devoted to his Miniſters, who are continually contriving how to corrupt and cook up their Maps moſt to the Advantage of their own Nation, and Prejudice of the Engliſh. This all the Maps can teſtify which have appeared at Paris ſince the Peace of Utrecht, when Mr. De L'Iſle, the King's Premier Geographer, began to curtail the Britiſh Dominions in that Continent more than ever, and reduced Nova-Scotia to leſs than the Peninſula, which is hardly a third Part of the whole.

Was not he a pretty Tool, to ſtrike the Country of New-Albion, the Property of England, on the Weſt Coaſt of North-America, out of his Maps (whoſe Example the other French Geographers have followed) and change Port Sir Francis Drake, into Port Saint Franciſco? Yet, for Want of Geographers (for we have none here but nominal Ones) this impudent Inſult and Mal-practice was never taken Notice of, 'til laſt Year, when a private Gentleman undertook to expoſe ſeveral Errors and Falſifications, which the French have introduced into their Maps, many of them with Intent to ſupplant the Engliſh Intereſt.

Theſe Inſtances ſhew, that there is a Neceſſity for encouraging Geographers among ourſelves, who may watch the Motions of theſe French Pirates, and expoſe their fraudulent Practices to the World, before they get Footing. For Want of ſuch a Check as this, their ſpurious Maps meet with a favorable Reception; and after ſome Years have paſt, thoſe corrupt Performances are appealed to, as authentick Evidence to ſupport their unjuſt Pretenſions, as in the preſent Caſe. What is ſtill worſe, in the Maps which paſs for our own Manufacture, either through Want of Skill in the Makers, or of Aſſiſtance from the Officers, which ought to give it (another Cauſe of Complaint) the Limits of our Territories in America, have been marked ſo erroneouſly, and to ſo much Diſadvantage, that they have ſeemed to confirm the French Impoſitions.

Our Map-makers therefore, (I cannot call them Geographers) have contributed to the Evil complained of, as well as the French; with this Difference, that the Faults they have committed may properly be called *Miſtakes*; which ſoft Term the Letter-writer ought to have given to the *wilful* Errors of his Countrymen.

Hence it is, that, to our great Scandal as a trading Nation, we have neither Maps nor Charts of our own, but are obliged to uſe thoſe made by the very Neighbours who have corrupted them, to defraud us, and whom, therefore, we ought not to truſt. I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant, *Z. K.*

Lyons, Oct. 22. Notwithſtanding the Court has ſent Troops into this Province, and into Burgundy, in order to ſuppreſs the Smugglers, they daily commit the moſt daring Depredations and Inſults, of which the following is a notable Inſtance: Some Days ago, they entered the City of Bourg, in Breſſe, about Ten o' Clock in the Morning, and ſent a Detachment from their main Body, to the Director of the Tobacco Farm; and as he was not at Home, they inſiſted upon ſeeing his Wife, whom they found at her Toilette in a Diſhabille. They immediately acquainted her with the Deſign of their Viſit, which was to exchange ſome Goods againſt Twenty Thouſand Livres ready Money. The Lady ſcreaming out inſtead of giving the Sum demanded, they carried her off to the Quarters of their Chief, whoſe Name is Mandrin, and is ſaid to be a reformed Captain of Horſe, who finding the Lady could not poſſibly anſwer the Demand, ordered her to be releaſed; but hearing that Mr. Joly de Fleury, Intendant of the Province, was come to Town, in order make the Aſſeſſment of the Taille, he went with a Party of his Men to the Houſe where this Magiſtrate lodged, who had a large Company at Dinner with him, and amongſt them ſeveral Ladies of Diſtinction. As ſoon as thoſe uninvited Gueſts arrived, every Body roſe from the Table in a great Fright; the Ladies fled for Safety to the Convent of the Capuchins; and the Intendant ran up to the Garrets, with his Servants, and others, and barricaded the Doors. The Captain of the Smugglers having entered the Dinning-Room, told a Servant, who had ſtaid there, that he wanted to ſpeak a Word with the Intendant. This Domeſtic having carried up the Meſſage, the Intendant, after mature Deliberation, reſolved to ſend down two Officers to Mandrin, to know the Occaſion of this Viſit. Mandrin received them very politely at the Head of his Band, told them he was very ſorry that he had diſturbed ſo honorable a Company, but that he had ſome Goods to diſpoſe of, and as Bourg was a pretty opulent Town, he would put off to the Value of Twenty Thouſand Livres there, and deſired the Intendant to ſend him the Money directly, becauſe he had no Time to loſe. The Deputies made their Report to the Intendant, and returned in a few Minutes with the Sum in Queſtion. Mandrin gave a Receipt for it, and delivered what Merchandizes he pleaſed at the general Offices at the Farms in the ſaid City, frankly acknowledging, that the Goods were as yet ſome what dear, but as ſoon as his Gang ſhould have reimburſed themſelves for divers Seizures made by the Farmers-general, he would lower the Price, and the Public ſhould hereafter have leſs Cauſe to complain. They parted very complaiſantly, and the Smugglers withdrew to one of the Suburbs, where they dined, and baited their Horſes. The Intendant thinking he had got quite rid of them, returned to his Dinner with the Gueſts that remained, when another Meſſage came from the Captain of the Smugglers, importing, that he muſt have 3000 Livres more for a Quantity of Tobacco, his Men having perceived that the Town of Bourg was but very ill ſerved with this Commodity, as to the Quality. The Money was immediately counted down to them, but they gave no Tobacco in Return; becauſe Mandrin alledged, that a patrolling Brigade had lately robbed his Men of Goods to that Value; however, he gave the Intendant an Order upon the Farmers-general, for Three Thouſand Livres, being, as he ſaid, as much as he was bound in Honor and Juſtice to do. After theſe Exploits, he went at the Head of his Gang to the City Goal, and releaſed eleven Men, that were detained for Smuggling. He alſo found there four Robbers, but would not enlarge them, ſaying, that he did not protect ſuch Fellows; nay, he even wrote their Commitment afreſh with his own Hand. The whole Band marched out of Bourg, about Four in the Afternoon, and took the Route of Trevoux, Capital of the Principality of Dombes. The two Regiments, that have been ſent againſt them, will probably find it no eaſy Taſk to deſtroy or diſperſe them; for they are ſaid to be at leaſt Three or Four Thouſand ſtrong, all deſperate Fellows, and extremely well armed, and perhaps well diſciplined, as their Commander has ſerved in the Army.

LONDON,

Nov. 2. We learn from New-Caſtle, that on the 17th paſt, at the great Sheep Share Fair at Wooller, ten neighbouring unmarried Gentlemen accidentally falling into Company, a Propoſal was made of entering into a Subſcription of 100 Guineas each, to be given to ſuch of the Subſcribers as ſhould firſt marry, which was immediately and unanimouſly agreed to; and which, it is hoped, will ſpur on the Batchelors, and haſten them to be happy.

Nov. 9. Great Complaints having been made to one of the moſt conſiderable trading Companies in the World, of their Cloth not anſwering in Goodneſs to the Contract, the Court of Directors took that Affair under their Conſideration; but firſt ordered all the Cloth for the Service of the current Year, to be ſent in by the Contractors. The proper Perſons were then ordered to inſpect them, and, upon Examination, 1900 Pieces out of 4000, ſent in by one Perſon, were found to be deficient, and likewiſe ſome from all the other Perſons. This being reported to the Court, one of the Members moved, that a ſtanding Order relating to Perſons not coming up to their Contracts, made with that Company, ſhould be read, which directs, that ſuch Perſons ſhould for ever afterwards be rendered incapable of ſerving that Company; and ſeveral ſuch Defaulters were accordingly declared incapable of ſerving that Company for the future.——When the Engliſh Cloth was kept up to the Standard, and Marks upon each Piece were a ſufficient Security for the Length, Breadth, and Goodneſs of the Commodity, we had no Complaints of Foreigners running away with our Clothing Trade; but that Honor in Trade being loſt, and the ſeveral Laws of public Authority diſregarded, foreign Markets took off French Cloth, as anſwering more honeſtly to what it was ſold for; and thus the Staple of our Country firſt loſt its Credit in foreign Markets.

Falmouth, Dec. 24. The Loyd, Capt. Wallace, from Liverpool for Virginia, was towed into this Harbour on Thurſday the 19th, by the Robert and Anne, Capt. Hale, who met with her at Sea in great Diſtreſs. On Friday the 13th Inſtant at eight o' Clock in the Morning, about 60 Leagues to the Weſtward of Scilly, as ſhe was lying to, a Sea broke over her, and carried away her Main-maſt by the Board, her Mizzen-maſt and Fore-yard, her Binnacle, and at the ſame Time ſtove in her Upper Deck. She had fourteen Paſſengers on Board, one of whom happened to be upon Deck with two of the Seamen at the Time of the Accident, They were all waſhed over-board, the Seamen recovered the Veſſel, but the Paſſenger was loſt. Another Paſſenger who was lying in his Hammock at the ſame Time, was cruſhed to Death by the Deck, and jammed in, in ſuch a Manner that there was no Way of getting him out but by cutting away the Plank. And another that lay along-ſide of him was hurt in the Hand greatly. The Boy belonging to the Cabbin was bruiſed terribly, but is very well recovered. One of her Pumps was carried away at the ſame Time; and what added to their Misfortune, was, ſhe had eight Feet Water in her Hold; the Crew were greatly fatigued with Pumping and Bailing, in Order to clear her. Her Cargo conſiſted of Fifty Ton of Salt and dry Goods. They ſaw one Veſſel before this that towed her in, and made ſeveral Signals of Diſtreſs, but they did not come to their Aſſiſtance. I went to ſee her as ſhe lay in our Pier, and think a more diſmal Wreck was never ſeen, that reached any Harbour.

CHARLES-TOWN, (in South-Carolina) Dec. 26.

The following SPEECH *was made by Governor* GLEN, *of* South-Carolina, *to the new-choſen Aſſembly of that Province, on* Wedneſday, *the* 13*th of* November, 1754.

I KNOW no Province in a more happy and flouriſhing Condition than this; no Enemies interrupt the Peace we enjoy, no Parties diſcompoſe the Tranquillity that reigns among us; and to crown all, we have the Smiles of Heaven upon our Labor, in conſtant and plentiful Crops: But, American Affairs are ſubject to ſudden Changes, this Sun-ſhine may be ſoon obſcured; and for ſome Time paſt Clouds have been gathering to the Northward that threaten to ruffle the Serenity of our Southern Skies; happy were it for us had they been timely diſperſed! But Matters ſeem to have now gone too far for an Ecclairciſſement; if you ſhall find this to be the Caſe, I doubt not that you will be of Opinion, that it is neceſſary to have Recourſe to Force, for we cannot be idle unconcerned Spectators, if the Subjects of a foreign Prince have preſumed to make Encroachments on any Part of his Majeſty's Dominions on this Continent, tho' not within the Limits of this Province; I hope therefore, we ſhall loſe no Time, in concerting ſuch Meaſures, with other Provinces, as the common Safety of all the Provinces calls for.

In ſuch a Situation of Affairs, it is a great Comfort to me that I can promiſe myſelf the ready Aſſiſtance of the Council; I am ſenſible of the happy Effects of it upon every Occaſion: And it gives me particular Pleaſure, to ſee ſo many Gentlemen of Prudence and Conſideration elected by their Country to repreſent it in this new General Aſſembly; the Experience that I have had of former Aſſemblies forbids me to doubt of the Advice and Aſſiſtance of this; but yet, whoever happens to have the Helm in his Hand in ſuch a Conjuncture will find it a critical one. A watchful Eye muſt be kept upon the French, who at this preſent Moment are endeavouring to draw our Indians from our Intereſt. The greateſt Attention muſt be given to theſe Indians, for, though they be all in Treaty with us, yet they may not always prove ſo faithful as we have found them for ſome Years paſt; and, it muſt be conſidered, that they conſiſt of many Thouſands, all accuſtomed to the Uſe of Arms, and all acquainted with every Corner of the Country. But, Gentlemen, let us conſider, that the Eyes of all

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our own Indians, and of other Indian Nations, are at preſent open to the Behaviour of the Britiſh Provinces: If we permit the French to gain Ground, we ſhall certainly loſe the Indians; on the contrary, if we exert ourſelves properly, we ſhall for ever fix their Friendſhip, and I am perſuaded the French will never after chooſe to meaſure their Strength with ours on this Continent.

I know how unneceſſary it is, for me to ſay any Thing to animate you upon this great Occaſion. If the Subjects of an abſolute Prince can ſhew ſuch Keenneſs to enlarge their Maſter's Territories! What Spirit and Zeal ſhould inſpire the Sons of Liberty in the Defence of theirs? For, not only our Country, but our Conſtitution is worth contending for: We enjoy the happieſt and moſt perfect Frame of Government in the World; it is the Envy of all Nations; the Language of all Nations is, Who would not be a Briton? By this Conſtitution, this Colony, from ſmall Beginnings, has, in a ſhort Space of Time, become very conſiderable, and highly beneficial to Great-Britain: When our Fathers came from thence to ſettle here, they brought with them the Laws of their Mother-Country as their Birth-right; and a glorious Inheritance they are! They brought with them that ineſtimable Jewel, the Privilege of enacting Laws for their good Government, without which they could have made no Progreſs; this Privilege I hope we ſhall ever poſſeſs, in the ſame pure Manner we do at preſent, by three diſtinct Branches of the Legiſlature. The ſure Way to do ſo is, to continue to uſe the greateſt Care and Circumſpection in paſſing our Laws; to be cautious not to intrench upon his Majeſty's Prerogative and juſt Rights, who during the Courſe of his glorious Reign has never invaded the Privilege of the meaneſt of his Subjects; to paſs no Act by which the Trade or Navigation of Great-Britain may be affected, nor by which the Inhabitants of this Province may be put upon a more advantageous Footing than his Majeſty's Subjects of Great-Britain; and in general, to paſs no Law of an unuſual or extraordinary Nature, without inſerting a Clauſe ſuſpending the Execution thereof till his Majeſty's Pleaſure be known concerning the ſame.

J. GLEN.

(The Aſſembly's Anſwer to this Speech is only expreſſive of their Duty and Loyalty to his Majeſty; Affection for the Governor; a juſt Reſentment againſt the Encroachments of the French on the Britiſh Territories; and a becoming Reſolution to unite againſt every Invader, in the Defence of every Part of his Majeſty's American Dominions: After preſenting their Addreſs the 15th of November, the Day following they adjourned themſelves to the 6th of January.)

BOSTON, January 20.

We have an Account of an odd Affair at Rehoboth, which happened a few Days ago, as related by ſome credible Perſons, viz. That a Traveller, finely dreſs'd, put up at a Tavern in that Town, and was ſoon after taken ſick; a Phyſician was ſent for, who told him his Caſe was dangerous, and he thought he would die; he ſaid he thought ſo too: The Inholder, upon his growing worſe, enquir'd of him his Name, and from whence he came, but by no Means would he be perſuaded to tell either, but deſired to be buried honorably when he died; and ſaid, that his Horſe, Tatkling, and what he had, would defray the Charge: About three Days after he died, having firſt burnt, or ordered to be burnt, all his Papers; upon examining his Bags, ſome Gold and Silver were found therein.——Various and uncertain are the Conjectures who this Man ſhould be.

NEW-YORK, February 3.

We hear the General Aſſembly of the Colony of Connecticut have ordered 7500 £. Proclamation Money, to be iſſued in Bills of Credit, and to bear Intereſt at 5 per Cent. for three Years. The Chief of which, it is ſaid, is to be employed in providing Proviſions for ſuch Forces as may be raiſed in that Government for the Defence of the Britiſh Intereſt in America.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 7.

The *Oſgood*, *Crookſhanks*, and the *Fiſhburn*, *Tipple*, two of the Tranſports from *Cork*, arrived at *Hampton* laſt Week; the Troops, &c. on Board are extremely healthy, there being not above two or three ſick.

Virginia, ſſ.

By the Honorable ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Eſq; His Majeſty's Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief, of the Colony and Dominion of *Virginia*:

A PROCLAMATION,

To prohibit the Exportation of Proviſions.

WHEREAS it has been repreſented to His Majeſty, That an illegal Correſpondence and Trade is frequently carried on between the *French* and his Subjects in the ſeveral Colonies; and I have his royal Inſtructions to take all poſſible Meaſures to prevent the Continuance of all ſuch dangerous Practices, particularly that the *French* ſhould not, upon any Account whatever, be ſupplied with Proviſions: I have therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice of His Majeſty's Council, to iſſue this Proclamation, hereby ſtrictly prohibiting the Exportation of Flour, Bread, Pork, and Beef, after the ſecond Day of next Month, until further Order made thereupon: And I do hereby require the Officers of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, not to clear out any Ship or Veſſel that has any Flour, Bread, Pork, or Beef on Board, but what is neceſſary for their own Company's Subſiſtance. And I do appoint this Proclamation to be read and publiſhed, at the Court-Houſe and Churches in each reſpective County within this Colony, and that the Sheriffs take Care the ſame be done accordingly.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of the Colony, at *Williamſburg*, this 6th Day of *March*, in the Twenty-Eighth Year of His Majeſty's Reign, *Annoq; Dom.* 1755.

ROBERT DINWIDDIE.

GOD Save the KING.

Virginia, ſſ.

By the Honorable ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Eſq; His Majeſty's Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief, of the Colony and Dominion of *Virginia*:

A PROCLAMATION,

For the Meeting of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

WHEREAS the GENERAL ASSEMBLY ſtood prorogued to the Second *Thurſday* in *May* next: And it is judged neceſſary for his Majeſty's Service, and the Good of this Colony, that the ſaid Aſſembly ſhould meet ſooner; I have therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice of His Majeſty's Council, by this Proclamation, in His Majeſty's Name, to order, That the ſaid Aſſembly meet on *Thurſday* the Firſt Day of *May* next at the CAPITOL in *Williamſburg*, at which Time I expect their Attendance for the Diſpatch of Public Buſineſs.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of the Colony, at *Williamſburg*, this Sixth Day of *March*, 1755, in the Twenty Eighth Year of His Majeſty's Reign.

ROBERT DINWIDDIE.

GOD Save the KING.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

For LONDON,

THE Ship *Elizabeth*, *Jacob Cooper*, Maſter, now lying at *Littlepage*'s, will take in Tobacco, with Liberty of Conſignment, at Seven Pounds *per* Ton. Gentlemen inclinable to ſhip, may ſend their Notes or Orders to Mr. *William Stevenſon* at *York*, Mr. *Richard Adams* in *New-Kent*, Col. *Thomas Moore* in *King-William*, Capt. *Robert Stevenſon* at *Cumberland* Town, or to the Captain, who will attend the County Courts.

To be SOLD,

A TRACT of Land, in *King-William* County, about two Miles from *Page*'s Warehouſe, containing upwards of 800 Acres, with two new Tobacco Houſes, 40 by 20, a Negroe Quarter, and a ſufficient Quantity of clear'd Ground to work five Hands. There are in the ſaid Tract about 100 Acres of River low Ground, with a great Quantity of Timber, of ſeveral Kinds, thereon. The Terms may be known, by applying to

Meriwether Skelton.

To be SOLD at Auction, in the Borough of Norfolk, *on* Saturday *the* 10*th of* May *next,*

THE Lots and Houſes, now (and for ſome Time paſt) in the Occupation of Mr. *Andrew Sprowl*, Merchant, the Purchaſer giving Bond and Security, to be diſcharged at two equal Payments, at *Williamſburg*, on or before the 20th Day of next *October* General Court, and at the *Oyer & Terminer* Court in *December* following.

8 *John Thruſton.*

TAKEN up by the Subſcriber, living near *Brunſwick* Court-Houſe, a dark Bay Horſe, with a Star in his Forehead, ſeveral Saddle Spots, a Switch Tail, ſome Part of his Mane cut, and branded tho' not to be underſtood. The Owner may have him of me, on paying as the Law directs.

Benjamin Seawell.

Williamſburg, February 14, 1755.

THE Subſcriber intending ſoon to leave this Colony, deſires all Perſons who have any Demands on him to ſend in their Accounts, and all thoſe who are indebted to him to make immediate Payment. He has a ſmall Quantity of Oznabrigs, Checks, ſtrip'd Hollands, Iriſh Linens, Gulix Hollands, Cambricks, Muſlins, printed and white Callicoes, Thread, Worſted, and Woollen Hoſe, Hats, black Paduſoy and Taffety, white Sattin, Scotch Snuff, Loaf and Muſcovado Sugar, Nails, Broad-cloth, German Serges, Duroys, Sagathys, Cap Lace, Guns, and ſundry other Articles; all which he intends to ſell at a very low Price, for ready Money.

3 *Charles Oſborne.*

For LONDON,

THE Ship *Neptune*, *William Mallam*, Commander, lying at *Weſt-Point*, takes on Board Tobacco at Six Pounds *per* Ton, with Liberty of Conſignment; the ſaid Veſſel is *Briſtol* built, Burthen about 500 Hogſheads, and will ſail early in *May* next.

Notes and Orders on *Rappahannock* will be receiv'd by Mr. *Dick* at *Frederickſburg*, and Mr. *Mills* at *Tappahanock*; for *York* and *James* River, by Mr. *Pride* at *York*-Town; and the Captain will attend all convenient Courts. 4

To be SOLD to the higheſt Bidder, on Eaſter-Monday, *being the* 31*ſt of this Inſtant,*

A VERY valuable Tract of Mountain Land, lately belonging to Mr. *Robert Baggs*, deceaſed, containing 1000 Acres, lying in *Orange* County, on the *Rapidan* River, very convenient to Church, Court-houſe and Mill, and about two Miles below *Roberſon* River. Any Perſon inclinable to purchaſe the ſame, may know the Terms by applying to the Subſcribers,

1 *Robert Jeayres,* *John Rennolds.* } Executors.

TAKEN up at the Subſcriber's Quarter, on *Powel*'s Run, in *Prince-William* County, a Cheſnut color'd Mare, branded on the near Shoulder F S, about twelve Hands high, and is dockt; ſhe has been poſted and appraiſed to Fifty Shillings. The Owner may have her of me, on paying what the Law directs.

Henry Lee.

Virginia, February 21, 1755.

AS a Perſon, pretending to be the Son of the late Duke of *Wirtemberg*, and in holy Orders, and taking upon himſelf the Names and Titles of *Carolus*, *Ludovicus*, *Rudolphus*, *Wirtemberg*, *Princeps*, A. M. M. D. hath obtained the Liberty, according to his Report, of preaching in ſeveral Churches within this Dominion: This is to give Notice, to all Miniſters and others, That the ſaid Perſon is an Impoſtor: He is a ſhort, middle-aged Man, a moſt notorious Liar, and affects to ſpeak broken *Engliſh*. In Order therefore to put a Stop to this, and the like ſhameful Irregularities for the future, His Honor the Governor hereby ſtrictly charges, and commands, all Miniſters, or in their Abſence the Church-Wardens, not to allow a Stranger, or an itinerant Preacher, under any Pretence whatſoever, to officiate in their Churches, or Chapels, unleſs they have previouſly qualified themſelves, as the Conſtitutions and Canons of the Church of *England* and the Law of this Country expreſly enjoin.

By Order of the Governor. *N. Walthoe.* Cl. Con.

To be LETT,

A HOUSE and Store where *Patrick Barclay*, Merchant, lately dwelt in *King & Queen* County, well situated for Trade, being very convenient to *York* and *Rappahanock* Rivers. For Terms apply to the Subscriber, in *King-William* County.

6 *John Martin.*

Just imported in the HAZARD, *Captain* COXEN,

A FRESH Assortment of Drugs and Medicines; to be sold, Wholesale or Retail, by the Subscriber, at his Shop, in *York* Town.

Feb. 26, 1755. 4 *George Riddell.*

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, near *Cob-Creek* Bridge, in *Lunenburg* County, a small dark Bay Horse, with his two hind Feet white, branded on the near Shoulder I, and on the Buttock with a Sort of a blotched M. He has been posted and appraised at Fifty Shillings. The Owner may have him of me, on paying as the Law directs.

John Logan.

To be SOLD, at King-William *Court-House, on the Court Day in* March, *to the highest Bidder,*

ONE good Chariot, with Harness for six Horses, three Bay Horses, two of them very valuable, twenty Head of Sheep, three Dozen of Silver Spoons of different Sizes. Credit will be allowed 'til the *May* Court following, the Purchaser giving Bond and Security, as usual, to the Subscriber.

2 *John Martin.*

RAN away from *Brandon*, in *Prince-George* County, on the 9th of *December* last, a Negroe Man Slave, named *Cain*, belonging to Col. *Nathaniel Harrison*, formerly his Coachman; he is a tall, black, elderly, smooth-tongued Fellow: It is suppos'd that he has followed a Negroe Woman belonging to Major *Thomas Hall* (which he used to visit as a Wife) to *North-Carolina*; but as he was well acquainted in many Parts of the Country, he may be gone elsewhere: He took with him a dark-grey Mare, low in Flesh, paces well, and branded on the Buttock and Shoulder, but can't remember the Brand, also a Country-made Saddle with Leather Housing, a Pair of Shoe-Boots, a long dark color'd riding Coat, a new white Plains Jacket and Breeches, Oznabrig Shirts, and Plenty of other Apparel. Whoever will convey him to *Brandon*, if taken up out of the Colony, shall have Two Pistoles Reward, besides what the Law allows, or otherwise One Pistole, to be paid by *William Skipwith.*

To be LETT, and may be entered on immediately,

A LARGE Brick Store-house, *&c.* in *Norfolk*, that lately belonged to Mr. *Robert Todd*, and is now in the Possession of Mr. *Hugh Blackburn*. Any Person may know the Terms by applying to the said Mr. *Blackburn*, or to the Subscribers, living in *Suffolk*. 13 *Watson* and *Cairnes.*

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, living near *Byrd's* Ordinary, in *Albemarle* County, a middle-siz'd dark grey Horse, with a bob'd Tail, and branded on the near Buttock thus ᗡ. The Owner may have him of me, paying as the Law directs.

Christopher Shepherd.

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, living in *Louisa* County, a Sorrel Mare, branded on the Shoulder R, and on the near Buttock F E with B at Top. She has been posted and appraised at Four Pounds. The Owner may have her of me, on paying as the Law directs. *William Brown.*

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, living in *Louisa* County, a Bay Mare, about 2 Years old, with a Fistula on her Shoulders, one of her Feet white, and branded on the Buttock TB in a Piece, and on the near Shoulder S. The Owner may have her of me, on paying as the Law directs. *Benjamin Brown.*

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, living in *Chesterfield* County, a small black Horse, about 13 Hands high, with two white Spots on the Inside of his fore Leg, his hind Feet white, and branded on the near Buttock with a Dott; he has been appraised at Forty Shillings. The Owner may have him of me, paying as the Law directs.

John Traylor.

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, living in *Chesterfield* County, a small dark Bay Mare, about 4 Feet 1 Inch high, with a Star in her Forehead, and branded on the near Buttock X. The Owner may have her, on paying as the Law directs.

Joseph Traylor.

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, on *Meherrin* River, in *Brunswick* County, a black Horse, of a middle Size, suppos'd to be very old, paces slow, and branded on the near Buttock Wb in a Piece, and on the near Shoulder ᗡ; he has been posted, and appraised at Thirty-five Shillings. The Owner may have him of me, on paying as the Law directs. *Benjamin Pennington.*

To be SOLD, to the highest Bidder,

A Plantation and Tract of Land, containing 5300 Acres, granted by Patent to Capt. *William Clinch* of *Surry* County, lying on both Sides the *Whipping* and *Licking* Creeks, in *Bedford* County, formerly *Lunenburg*. The Plantation is in good Order for making a Crop, with 4 or 5 Hands: There is on it an Overseers House, a Negroe Quarter, and other convenient Out-Houses; also some Corn and Fodder, about 50 Head of C[illegible], some Horses, 8 or 9 Hogsheads of Tobacco made on the Plantation. The Sale to be on the Premisses, the first *Thursday* in *March* next.

Also to be Sold, to the highest Bidders, on the third *Tuesday* in *March* next, at *Surry* Court-House, being Court Day, Three Plantations, *viz.* One containing 50 Acres, whereon *Benjamin Taylor* lately dwelt; another containing 150 Acres, whereon *John Hunnicut* lately dwelt; the other containing 220 Acres, where *Marshal Seat* lately dwelt; all being near the said Court-House. Any Person inclinable to purchase either of the aforesaid Plantations, may be shewed the same, on applying to Capt. *William Clinch*, who lives at the said Court-House, or to 5 *John Ruffin.*

Williamsburg, January 31, 1755.

AS I am commanded by his Majesty to raise Recruits to serve in the Regiments of Sir Peter Halket and Col. Dunbar, daily expected into this Colony, to drive the French from his Majesty's Lands on the Ohio; the following Encouragement will be given to all Persons inclinable to list for the said Service, viz.

Each Man voluntarily offering himself, shall receive a Guinea enlisting Money, and Six Pence per Day, and Provisions, with all Arms and Accoutrements necessary, and Cloathing from Great-Britain; and when the Expedition and Service is over, they shall be discharged and sent home to their respective Habitations; and if they will repair to Williamsburg, they shall be provided with Provisions till the forementioned Regiments arrive.

Robert Dinwiddie.

To be SOLD to the highest Bidder, pursuant to the last Will and Testament of Mr. Archibald Macpherson, *deceas'd, on the second Day of* June *Fair next, in* Fredericksburg,

A VERY convenient Lot and Houses, in the said Town, whereon Mr. *Anthony Strother* now lives, consisting of a large Dwelling-House, with all other convenient Out-Houses, and a Garden and Lot pailed in. Six Months Credit will be allowed, the Purchaser giving Bond and Security as usual; if any Person chuses to purchase the same sooner, may apply to 15 *Charles Dick*, Executor.

VIRGINIA, February 12, 1755.

By Command of the GOVERNOR and COUNCIL,

NOTICE is hereby given, That the Governor has received an additional Instruction from the King, of the 27th of *August* last, authorising and requiring him to make and pass Grants of His Majesty's Lands, lying to the Westward of the Ridge of Mountains which separates the Rivers *Roanoke*, *James*, and *Patowmack*, from the *Mississippi*, to such Persons as shall be desirous of settling there, free from the Payment of any Quit-Rent, for and during the Term of Ten Years, to be computed from the Date of their respective Grants: And, as a farther Encouragement to induce Persons to settle in those Parts, His Majesty has likewise signified his Will and Pleasure, That the usual Fine of Five Shillings, upon each Fifty Acres, be remitted to all such Persons as shall take out Grants of the said Lands, within the Space of Ten Years next ensuing the Date of this Instruction.

Provided always, That his Honor do not grant to any Person whatsoever, in his own, or in any other's Name in Trust for him, a greater Quantity of His Majesty's said Lands, lying to the Westward of the said Mountains, than One Thousand Acres.

N. Walthoe, Cl. Con.

TAKEN up at the Subscriber's, in *James-City* County, a middle-siz'd white Horse, with Grey on the Hips, a hanging Mane, and Switch Tail, mark'd on the Breast and Sides of the Neck with a Collar, and branded on the near Buttocks with unintelligible Letters in a Diamond. The Owner may have him of me, paying as the Law directs.

Benjamin Weldon.

TAKEN up by the Subscriber, living in *Amelia* County, a small grey Horse, about 4 Feet 2 Inches high, has lost his right Eye, and branded on the near Buttock TR in a Piece, tho' the Top of the R is imperfect. The Owner may have him of me, on paying as the Law directs, *James Benly.*

To be SOLD,

A TRACT of Land, containing about 930 Acres, lying in *Hanover* County, within five Miles of *Newcastle*: There are on the said Land a very good Dwelling-House for an Overseer, a Negroe Quarter, Tobacco Houses, and others, necessary for Cropping. Any Person inclinable to purchase may know the Terms, by applying to the Subscriber, in *Williamsburg*. t. f. *William Clayton.*

To be SOLD,

THE Plantation whereon the Subscriber lately lived, adjoining the Town of *Newcastle*, containing upwards of 300 Acres, with a good Dwelling-House, and other convenient Houses thereon. The Terms may be known by applying to Major *Taylor*, in *Newcastle*, or to me, at *Elk-Island*.

t. f. *Reuben Skelton.*

To be SOLD, by the Subscriber, by Virtue of Powers of Attorney, from William M'Redie, *Brother and Heir at Law to* Thomas M'Redie *of* Fredericksburg, *Merchant, deceas'd, and* Thomas M'Redie, *Father of the said* Thomas,

A Plantation in *Augusta* County, on *Shenandoe* River, containing 300 Acres more or less, 100 of which are extraordinary rich low Grounds; as also, Ten choice working Slaves, with Hogs, Horses, and Cattle. The Premisses may be entered upon, and enjoyed, at any Time after the Sale. Whoever has a Mind to purchase, may apply to us and know the Terms.

t. f. *John Mitchell,*
William Cuningham.

To be SOLD, in Prince-George *County,*

FOURTEEN Hundred Acres of Land, containing both valuable high and low Grounds, affords good Water, good Pasturage, and is well timber'd with large Oak, Pine and Poplar, whereon are three good Plantations, in good Order for Cropping; and the Manor Plantation is a very handsome Situation, with the following Conveniencies, *viz.* One Dwelling-House 32 by 25, containing 4 Rooms and 4 Closets, with 2 Brick Chimneys, plaister'd and white-wash'd; also another Dwelling-House 38 by 18, with a Stack of Chimneys in the Middle, 2 Rooms on a Floor, and a large Closet, plaister'd and white-wash'd, a good Dairy, Meat-House, Smoak-House, Kitchen, Quarter, Spinning-House with a Brick Chimney, one 40 and one 32 Feet Tobacco-Houses, a large well-fixed Store, with several other convenient Houses and Orchards; and on each of the other Plantations are two 32 Feet Tobacco-Houses, an Overseer's-House, and Negroe Quarters, likewise Orchards, and good Water. Any Person inclinable to purchase may know the Terms, by applying to *Charles Turnbull* at *Petersburg*, *John Hyndman* at *Smithfield*, or *William Stevenson* at *York*. t. f.

Lately PUBLISHED,

THE VIRGINIA ALMANACK, for the Year of our Lord God, 1755. Being the Third after Bissextile or Leap-Year. Wherein are contained, the Lunations, Conjunctions, Eclipses; the Increase, Decrease, and Length of the Days and Nights; the Sun and Moon's Rising and Setting; the Rising, Setting, and Southing of the heavenly Bodies; Weather, Court-Days, an exact List of the *British* House of Commons, Peers of *Scotland*, &c.

Calculated according to Art; and referred to the Horizon of 38 Degrees *North* Latitude, and a Meridian of Five Hours *West* from the City of *London*, fitting *Virginia*, *Maryland*, *North-Carolina*, &c.

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